GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:298
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
DERESERVATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR MINING AREA
M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to dereserve the Public Sector Mining Area;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto; and

(d) the extent to which it will be beneficial to the workers in protecting their interests?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN THE REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO.298 SLATED FOR ANSWER IN THE LOK SAB THE 10TH DECEMBER,2001 REGARDING DERESERVATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR MINING AREA.

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Mineral Advisory Council (MAC) in its 26th meeting held on 30.8.2000 discussed the issue of dereservation of areas reserved for exclusive public sector exploitation and decided that States would review the reserved areas for possible dereservation in a time bound manner. The issue was again discussed in the Conference of State Ministers of Mining and Geology held on 14.7.2001 and it was decided that the States would review the areas reserved under the erstwhile Rule 58 of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 and de-notify areas notrequired for exclusive exploitation by Public Sector Undertakings.In case of remaining areas, the State Governments would send full justification, area wise, for continuing with reservation for further consideration of the Central Government.

The State Governments have started reviewing the areas for possible dereservation. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have already submitted proposals for dereservation of areas no longer required for exploitation through public sector undertakings, for approval of the Central Government.

Since the areas proposed to be dereserved are idle areas where no mining is taking place now, there is no repercussion on the workers.